

Testimony for UConn SOM
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I have had a truly special educational and career growth while a medical student at UConn. I was put into a flipped classroom setting where I could learn from scientists, clinicians, and even my classmates. I gained a strong background in the basic sciences my first two years that I think will prepare me for what is to come in the rest of my career. I later was able to engage in clinical experiences, where I saw many complex scenarios that widened my understanding of certain disease processes. Many of my classmates shared similar patient experiences with me, and I believe this is due to the strong clinical training that UConn provides. I also was supported to engage in community outreach in medical school, such as teaching high schoolers from the Greater Hartford area in the Doctoring Academy and screening for hypertension and vaccine hesitancy in a local black barbershop through Cut Hypertension. These activities have helped strengthen my motivation to be an educator and physician for a diverse patient population.

My strongest sense of career growth has occurred in the research mentoring I have received at UConn. I worked a very large database study looking at melanoma patients and healthy controls that involved almost 300,000 patients. Much help was received from the IRB, IT, and Oncology departments of UConn Health to initiate this 4-year project. Along the way, I received excellent guidance from my principal investigator, who is an oncologist at UConn Health. Through my accomplishments at UConn, I was very fortunate and got to speak with some of the most prominent researchers in immuno-oncology during my residency interview season. As my time at UConn is about to come to an end, I am very thankful for the opportunities that were afforded to me here.

Regards,

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